Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 MAR 2005 (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



10/5286**73**

(43) International Publication Date 8 April 2004 (08.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/029267 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification7: C12P 17/04, 7/58
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2003/010489

(22) International Filing Date:

22 September 2003 (22.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

02021602.4

27 September 2002 (27.09.2002) E

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DSM IP ASSETS B.V. [NL/NL]; Het Overloon 1, NL-6411 TE Heerlen (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HOSHINO, Tatsuo [JP/JP]; 2-18-14, Fueta, Kamakura-shi, Kanagawa-ken 248-0027 (JP). SHINJOH, Masako [JP/CH]; Ruemelin-bachweg 25, Ch-4054 Basel (CH).
- (74) Agent: MUELLER, Ingrid; Roche Vitamins Ltd., Patent Department (VMD), Wurmisweg 576, CH-4303 Kaiseraugst (CH).

- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- with (an) indication(s) in relation to deposited biological material furnished under Rule 13bis separately from the description

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING L-ASCORBIC ACID

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides the use of Enzyme B of G. oxydans DSM 4025, as disclosed in EP 0 832 974 A2, in a process for producing L-ascorbic acid from L-gulose, L- galactose, L-idose or L-talose, or from L-gulono-1,4-lactone (and its acid form, L-gulonic acid) and from L-galactono-1,4-lactone (and its acid form, L-galactonic acid).